



**NIFA Veterinary Medicine
Loan Repayment Program (VMLRP)**

National Institute of Food and Agriculture
US Department of Agriculture
Form NIFA 2009-0001
OMB Control No. 0524-0046
Expiration Date: 11/30/2016

Veterinarian Shortage Situation Nomination Form

To be submitted under the authority of the chief State or Insular Area Animal Health Official

Veterinary Medicine Loan Repayment Program (VMLRP)

This form must be used for Nomination of Veterinarian Shortage Situations to the Veterinary Medicine Loan Repayment Program (VMLRP), Authorized Under the National Veterinary Medical Service Act (NVMSA)

Note: Please submit one separate nomination form for each shortage situation. See the State Animal Health Official (SAHO) section of the VMLRP web site (www.nifa.usda.gov/vmlrp) for the number of nominations permitted for your state or insular area.

Location of Veterinary Shortage Area for this Nomination

North Dakota

Location of Veterinary Shortage:

(e.g., County, State/Insular Area; must be a logistically feasible veterinary practice service area)

Approximate Center of Shortage Area (or Location of Position if Type III): Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory, Fargo, North Dakota

(e.g., Address or Cross Street, Town/City, and Zip Code)

Overall Priority of Shortage:

☐ Moderate Priority

☐ High Priority

☒ Critical Priority

Type of Veterinary Practice Area/Discipline/Specialty (Choose only one Type)



Type I Shortage: Private Practice

Food Animal Medicine (awardee obligation: at least 80 percent time or 32 hr/week)

Must cover (check at least one)

- ☐ Beef Cattle
☐ Dairy Cattle
☐ Swine
☐ Poultry
☐ Small Ruminant
☐ Other: _____

May cover

- ☐ Beef Cattle
☐ Dairy Cattle
☐ Swine
☐ Poultry
☐ Small Ruminant
☐ Other: _____



Type II Shortage: Private Practice – Rural Area

Food Animal Medicine (awardee obligation: at least 30 percent time or 12 hr/week)

Must cover (check at least one)

- ☐ Beef Cattle
☐ Dairy Cattle
☐ Swine
☐ Poultry
☐ Small Ruminant
☐ Other: _____

May cover

- ☐ Beef Cattle
☐ Dairy Cattle
☐ Swine
☐ Poultry
☐ Small Ruminant
☐ Other: _____



Type III Shortage: Public Practice (awardee obligation: at least 49 percent time or 19.6 hr/week)

Employer: NDSU-VDL _____ Position Title: Veterinary microbiologist

Please select **one or more** specialty/disciplinary areas:

- ☐ Food Safety
☐ Public Health
☐ Epidemiology
☒ Other: Veterinary Microbiology

Please describe the **importance and objectives** of a veterinarian filling this shortage situation as well as being located in the community, area, state/insular area, or position requested above (limit your response to 200 words or less).

There is currently one board certified veterinary microbiologists in the state of North Dakota. By placing this individual in the veterinary diagnostic laboratory at NDSU, this specialist is able to serve practitioners and their communities all over the state of North Dakota regardless of their population base. This position is located in Fargo due to the fact that the laboratory is associated with NDSU. The lab covers a practice area of over 100,000 mi², which includes all of ND and western MN, with millions of head of livestock in very rural settings.

Please describe the **activities** of a veterinarian meeting this shortage situation in the community, area, state/insular area, or position requested above (limit your response to 200 words or less).

The veterinary microbiologist at NDSU supervises the VDL serology, virology and bacteriology sections, therefore is a resource statewide for all of these areas of diagnostic testing. This individual is responsible for maintenance of these areas as well as new test development, and serves as a veterinary microbiology consultation resource for practitioners and animal owners/producers all over the state of North Dakota. A microbiologist is also a key resource for the state veterinarian and public health officials in their efforts to rapidly identify and respond to highly contagious diseases impacting both animal health and human health.

Please describe any past efforts to recruit and retain a veterinarian in the shortage situation identified above (limit your response to 100 words or less).

Until recently, NDSU and North Dakota did not have the services of a board certified veterinary microbiologist. Through suggestions made during our last accreditation audit, it was strongly suggested that we aggressively recruit such an individual. We were successful and now feel excited to offer this expertise to the entire state.

Please describe the risk of this veterinarian position not being secured or retained. Include the risk(s) to the production of a safe and wholesome food supply and to animal, human, and environmental health not only in the community but in the region, state/insular area, nation, and/or international community (limit your response to 250 words or less).

The laboratory has recently hired a young, enthusiastic, highly intelligent veterinarian that can do great things for the VDL and for North Dakota. This individual presents an area of specialty the VDL has not been able to offer in recent years, and in the short time on staff, has made great improvements in what the lab is able to offer practitioners in ND and western MN. Retaining this microbiologist is critical to the continued success of the laboratory and its ability to help protect food safety in the region. Furthermore, failure to retain a microbiologist will threaten the ability of the lab to maintain accreditation, which could in turn, mean a loss of service to veterinarians and the livestock industries of the region.

(Optional) If the nominator wishes to specify a service time for this shortage situation that is higher than the minimum required for the shortage type checked on Page 1, please specify the percent time in the box below (based on a 40-hour work week). Leave the box blank if the service time for this shortage situation is for the minimum percent time of the shortage type indicated.

%

Minimum Service time required for each shortage type

Type I: 80 percent time or 32 hours/week

Type II: 30 percent time or 12 hours/week

Type III: 49 percent time or 19.6 hours/week

SAHO nominator must check both boxes below in order for NIFA to consider this nomination for official designation

- X** By checking this box, I affirm that this form represents a nomination and is subject to NIFA review and approval.
- X** By checking this box, I affirm that it is my professional opinion that this is a bona fide food supply or public health-related veterinary shortage situation. I affirm due diligence has been invested to identify this area as a shortage situation of at least moderate priority (severity).

Authorized State or Insular Area Animal Health Official or designee:

Name: Susan J. Keller, DVM

Title: State Veterinarian

Organization: North Dakota State Board of Animal Health
North Dakota Department of Agriculture

Email: skeller@nd.gov

Telephone Number: 701-328-2655
(Area code required)

Public reporting for OMB control number 0524-0046 is estimated to average two hours, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information, unless it displays a current valid OMB control number. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden to NIFA, OGFM, 800 9th St. SW, Washington, DC 20024, Attention Policy Section. Do not return the completed form to this address.

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